IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently and Previously Amended) A computerized active file system, comprising:
    - a memory circuit for storing data;
    - a communications port that is in communication with a network, said communications port being configured to transmit and receive data over said network; and
    - a processing circuit that is configured to control the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port;
    - said processing circuit also being configured to control said memory circuit so as to operate as a file server;
    - said processing circuit being further configured to automatically cause a notification message to be sent to said network upon the occurrence of at least one predetermined triggering event pertaining to the operation of said file server,
    - wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of a system administrator utilizing an auto-notification computer program routine and
    - wherein said automatic notification message may be configured by said system administrator to run programs, enforce constraints, send notifications and/or perform functions in response to said at least one predetermined triggering event to enables said file server to be used in workflow automation.

2. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and said associated automatic notification messages are configurable by a systems administrator.

3. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, wherein said associated automatic notification messages are transmitted over said network by use of one of: (a) e-mail message technology, and (b) a predetermined rules-based function.

4. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, wherein the memory circuit comprises random access memory (RAM) and a hard disk drive.

5. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 4, wherein said file server comprises: (1) said hard disk drive, (2) said RAM, and (3) control software that stores and retrieves groupings of data organized as individual files onto and from said hard disk drive, while utilizing said RAM for temporary storage of data that make up portions of said files or entire said files.

6. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, further comprising: a database that contains information relating to said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type of automatic notification message.

7. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, further comprising: a web server that is in communication with one of a Local Area Network, a Wide Area Network, and a global set of networks interconnected with routers.

8. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 7, further comprising: at least one user that is in communication with said one of a Local Area Network, a Wide Area Network, and a global set of networks interconnected with routers; said at least one user having a computer platform that contains browser software and graphical user interface software.

9. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 8, wherein said associated automatic notification messages are transmitted over said network to predetermined of said at least one user by use of one of: (a) E-mail message technology, and (b) a predetermined rules-based function.

10. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, further comprising: (1) an authentication function, (2) an access rights function, (3) a user management function, (4) a group management function, (5) a modules management function, and (6) an objects management function.

11. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 10, further comprising: a function that imports users and groups from other computer systems.

12. (Original) The computerized active file system as recited in claim 1, wherein said triggering event comprises one of said file server granting access to: (1) read a file, (2) write a file, (3) read/write a file, (4) download a file, and (5) upload a file.

13. (Currently and Previously Amended) A method for operating a computerized active file system, comprising:

- providing a file server having a memory circuit for storing data, a communications port for transmitting and receiving data over a network, and a processing circuit that controls the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port, said file server treating predetermined data groups as single file entities; and
- automatically causing a notification message to be sent to said network upon the occurrence of at least one predetermined triggering event pertaining to the operation of

said file server, wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of .. .. a system administrator utilizing to-notification computer program routine and wherein said automatic notification message may be configured by said system administrator to run programs, enforce constraints, send notifications and/or perform functions in response to said at least one predetermined triggering event able said s file server to be used in workflow automation.

14. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising: configuring, by a systems administrator, said at least one predetermined triggering event and said associated automatic notification messages.

15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event comprises a complex event.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising: storing in a database information relating to said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type of automatic notification message.

17. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising: transmitting over said network said associated automatic notification messages by use of one of: (a) e-mail message technology, and (b) a predetermined rules-based function.

18. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said automatic notification message comprises a complex action.

19. (Original) The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said complex action comprises launching an application program.

20. (Original) The method as recited in claim 19, wherein said application program is launched for a user that is in communication with said file server over a Local Area Network, said user having a computer platform that contains browser software and graphical user interface software.

21. (Original) The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising: providing a web server that is in communication with said file server and one of a Local Area Network, a Wide Area Network, and a global set of networks interconnected with routers; providing at least one user that is in communication with said one of a Local Area Network, a Wide Area Network, and a global set of networks interconnected with routers; said at least one user having a computer platform that contains browser software and graphical user interface software; and

upon the occurrence of one of said automatic notification messages, a link contained within said automatic notification message opens said at least one user's browser software and takes the user to a folder or object that was just triggered.

22. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein a distribution of said automatic notification messages is determined by: (1) a type of said at least one predetermined triggering event, and (2) a predetermined set of said at least one user, as per a group definition.

23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising: (1) providing at least two users that are in communication with said file server over said network; and (2) storing more than one single file under an identical virtual filename as presented to said at least two users as a Display Name, while storing said more than one single file under unique actual filenames in a Files Table contained within said memory circuit along with a link to a location of said more than one single file in a virtual folder, wherein said location is based upon: (a) a setting in a database and (b) a username of the virtual folder where the file is being uploaded to with said file server.

24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising: (1) an authentication function; (2) an access rights function, (3) a user management function, (4) a group management function, (5) a modules management function, and (6) an objects management function.

25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 24, further comprising: importing users and groups from other computer systems.

26. (Original) The method as recited in claim 24, further comprising: controlling a plurality of objects by use of said modules management function and said objects management function, wherein said plurality of objects each comprises one of: a file, calendar, contact, report and e-mail message.

27. (Original) The method as recited in claim 24, further comprising: controlling, by user of said access rights function, a user's rights to read, write, or read/write a file being downloaded from or uploaded to said file server.

28. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said triggering event comprises one of said file server granting access to: (1) read a file, (2) write a file, (3) read/write a file, (4) download a file, and (5) upload a file.

29. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, further comprising, seamlessly encrypting data while uploading a file to said file server.

30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein said file server operations run on top of another architecture that also runs on said processing circuit.

31. (Original) The method as recited in claim 13, wherein a system for tracking bugs and fixes runs on top of said file server operations, also on said processing circuit.

32. (Currently and Previously Amended) A computerized active virtual file system, comprising:

- a memory circuit for storing data;
- a communications port that is in communication with a network, said communications port being configured to transmit and receive data over said network; and
- a processing circuit that is configured to control the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port; said processing circuit also being configured to control said memory circuit so as to operate as a file server; said processing circuit being further configured to control the access rights over said network of a plurality of users to files stored on, or uploaded to, said file server, while providing an automatic notification message to predetermined of said plurality of users over said network when a triggering event occurs pertaining to the operation of said file server ~~wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and consent of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of an auto-notification computer program routine and wherein said automatic notification message~~ and wherein said automatic notification message may be configured by a system administrator utilizing an auto-notification computer program routine to run programs, enforce constraints, send notifications and/or perform functions in response to said at least one predetermined triggering event to enables said file server to be used in workflow automation.

33. (Original) The computerized active virtual file system as recited in claim 32, wherein said triggering event comprises one of said file server granting access to: (1) read a file, (2) write a file, (3) read/write a file, (4) download a file, and (5) upload a file.

34. (Original) The computerized active virtual file system as recited in claim 32, wherein said at least one triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of an auto-notification computer program routine residing on said computerized active virtual file system.

35. (Original) The computerized active virtual file system as recited in claim 32, wherein said at least one triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification

message are sent via an e-mail message to virtually immediately notify said predetermined users who are currently logged-on of appropriate site activity at said file server, wherein others of said predetermined users are notified upon their next login session.

36. (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system comprising:
   - a system administrator preconfiguring at least one triggering event, related to the operation of said computerized file system, in a computer program in communication with said computerized file system;
   - a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated action, related to the operation of said computerized file system, in said computer program to enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable said file system to be used in a workflow automation;
   - monitoring said computerized file system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
   - initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs.

37. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system as claimed in Claim 36 further comprising:
   - preconfiguring an associated group of users in said computer program wherein said preconfigured associated group of users are associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
   - initiating said preconfigured associated action with regard to a preconfigured associated group of users.

38. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system as claimed in Claim 36 wherein said computerized file system is stored in a table.

39. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system as claimed in Claim 36 wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file

system, changing access rights for a file/object on said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

40. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system as claimed in Claim 36 wherein said at least one associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program or a combination thereof.

41. (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system comprising:
- a system administrator configuring at least one triggering event in a computer program in communication with said operating system's computerized file system;
- a system administrator configuring at least one associated action in said computer program_ to enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering, ~~where~~in said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said operating system's computerized file system ~~and said triggering event and associated action enable workflow automation in said file system;~~
- monitoring said operating system's computerized file system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said associated preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs .

42. (Previously Added) A method for supporting an operating system's computerized file system that is part of an operating system as claimed in Claim 41 further comprising:
- preconfiguring an associated group of users in said computer program wherein said preconfigured associated group of users are associated with said preconfigured associated action and said triggering event;
- initiating said preconfigured associated action with regard to a preconfigured associated group of users.

43. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system as claimed in Claim 41 wherein said operating system's computerized file system is stored in a table.

44. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system as claimed in Claim 41 wherein said at least one triggering event, associated action, and associated group of users are associated with a folder in said operating system's computerized file system.

45. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system as claimed in Claim 41 wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

46. (Previously Added) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system as claimed in Claim 41 wherein said at least one associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof.

47.   (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) A method for directly supporting a distributed computerized file system, wherein said distributed computerized file system is accessible via the Internet, comprising:
- a system administrator configuring at least one triggering event and preconfiguring at least one associated action, in a computer program in communication with said distributed computerized file system, to enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable workflow automation in said file system;
- monitoring said distributed computerized file system, with said computer program, for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs.

48. (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) A method for supporting a computerized object system comprising:

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one triggering event and preconfiguring at least one associated action, in a computer program in communication with said computerized object system, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized object system and further enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event;

- monitoring said computerized object system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and

- initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs to enable workflow automation in said file system.

49. (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) A method for supporting a computer comprising a file server operating system, wherein said file server operating system comprises a computerized file system, wherein said file server operating system's computerized file system is stored in a table, wherein said method comprises:

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one triggering event, in a computer program in communication with said file server operating system's computerized file system, ~~to enable workflow automation~~ wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof;

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated action in said computer program, to enable workflow automation <u>by sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof in response to said triggering event</u> wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said file server operating system's computerized file system, ~~and wherein said associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof~~;

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated group of users in said computer program wherein said associated group of users are associated with said triggering event and said associated action;

- monitoring said file server operating system's computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and

- initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program with regard to said preconfigured associated group of users when said triggering event occurs.

50.   (Currently and Previously Amended/Added) computerized active file system comprising:
- a computerized file system; and
- a computer readable medium, wherein said computer readable medium is in communication with said computerized file system, and wherein said computer readable medium comprises computer executable instructions for initiating a method comprising:
-      a system administrator configuring at least one triggering event;
-      a system administrator configuring at least one associated action, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable workflow automation in said file system by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event;
-      a system administrator configuring at least one associated group of users wherein said associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
- monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said at least one preconfigured associated action for said preconfigured associated group of users when said at least one preconfigured triggering event occurs.

51.   (Previously Added) A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 50 wherein said computerized file system is stored in a table.

52.   (Previously Added) A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 50 wherein said at least one preconfigured triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

53. (Previously Added). A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 50, wherein said at least one preconfigured associated action optionally includes sending an email message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof.

54.   (Currently and Previously Amended) A computerized active file system comprising:

- an operating system wherein said operating system comprises a computerized file system;
- a computer readable medium, wherein said computer readable medium is in communication with said operating system's computerized file system, and wherein said computer readable medium comprises computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:
- a system administrator configuring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of said operating system's computerized file system;
- a system administrator configuring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event; and
- a system administrator configuring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
- monitoring said operating system's computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said preconfigured associated action to enable workflow automation   by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions said preconfigured group of users when said triggering event occurs.

55. (Previously Added). A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 54, wherein said operating system's computerized file system is stored in a table.

56. (Previously Added). A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 54, wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said

computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

57. (Previously Added) A computerized active file system as claimed in Claim 54 wherein said at least one associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof.

58. (Currently and Previously Amended) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of a computerized file system;
- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event;
- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
- monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said preconfigured associated action to enable workflow automation for said associated preconfigured group of users when said preconfigured triggering event occurs.

59. (Previously Added) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions as claimed in Claim 58 wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a

file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

60. (Previously Added) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions as claimed in Claim 58 wherein said at least one associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof.

61. (Currently and Previously Amended) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of an operating system's computerized file system;
- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event;
- a system administrator preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
- monitoring said operating system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- enabling workflow automation by initiating said preconfigured associated action for said preconfigured associated group of users when said preconfigured triggering event occurs to enable workflow automation.

62. (Previously Added) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions as claimed in Claim 61 wherein said at least one triggering event creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a

file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof.

63. (Previously Added) A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions as claimed in Claim 61 wherein said at least one associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof.

64. (Currently and Previously Amended) computerized active file system having a graphical user interface, a method of preconfiguring and performing a trigger, the method comprising:

- displaying a group of trigger choices related to the utilization of a computerized file system comprising:
- a set of events for a triggering event, wherein said set of events optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof;
- a set of actions for a triggering action, wherein said set of actions optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof; and
- a set of users for a triggering group of users;
- a system administselecting at least one triggering event;
- a system administselecting at least one triggering action associated with said triggering event to enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event;
- a system administselecting at least one triggering group of users associated with said triggering event and said triggering action;
- receiving at least one signal indicative of said trigger choices;
- configuring said trigger according to said trigger choices;

- monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one triggering event;
- initiating said associated triggering action for said associated triggering group of users ~~ to ~~enable workflow automation in said file system~~.

65. <u>(Currently and Previously Amended)</u> In a computerized active file system having a graphical user interface, a method of preconfiguring and performing a trigger, the method comprising:

- displaying a group of trigger choices related to the utilization of an operating system's computerized file system comprising:
- a set of events for a triggering event, wherein said set of events optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof;
- a set of actions for a triggering action, wherein said set of actions optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof; and
- a set of users for a triggering group of users;
- <u>a system administrator</u> selecting at least one triggering event;
- <u>a system administrator</u> selecting at least one triggering action associated with said triggering event <u>to enable workflow automation by running programs, enforcing constraints, sending notifications and/or performing functions in response to said at least one triggering event;</u>
- <u>a system administrator</u> selecting at least one triggering group of users associated with said triggering event and said triggering action;
- receiving at least one signal indicative of said trigger choices;
- configuring said trigger according to said trigger choices;
- monitoring said operating system's computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one triggering event;
- initiating said associated triggering action for said associated triggering group of users ~~to enable workflow automation~~.